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**Government  
of South Australia**

# **OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY**

## **2021-22 Annual Report**

**OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY**

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2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE OUTBACK COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY

To:

The Hon. Geoff Brock MP  
Minister for Local Government  
Minister for Regional Roads  
Minister for Veterans Affairs

This annual report will be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009* and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the Outback Communities Authority by:

Jan Ferguson OAM

Presiding Member

Date 26 October 2022

Signature



The 2021-22 Annual Report was due on 30 September 2022, however there was a delay in finalising the audit of the 2021-22 financial statements.

## From the Presiding Member

2021-22 has once again been a very busy time for the OCA, with a number of exceptional factors combining to create an administrative challenge for everyone in the OCA. Overall, I believe this challenge has been very successfully met.

These factors have included:

- demand for tourist related services stemming from record visitation levels to the outback;
- a very welcome boost in special project funding from two major Australian Government programs, (never-the-less, requiring administration and acquittal); and
- completion of the Outback Futures Project most significantly, with landmark recommendations being made to the Minister about future governance directions and community sustainability in the outback.



During the year the Drought Communities Programme Round 2 was completed, with \$982,495 worth of investment going into a range of community benefit projects in the outback region. The other major Australian Government program administered by the OCA has been the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure, with Phase 1 projects (\$2.44m) and Phase 2 projects (\$1.14m) progressed during the year and many completed.

In combination, this exceptional funding boost has been highly significant and beneficial, both in removing a backlog in important infrastructure needs, but also in many cases improving the morale and daily lives in outback communities. In saying this, it is also important to remember that every dollar in capital funding will almost always require an ongoing maintenance commitment.

The Outback Futures project really dominated the administrative activities of the OCA during the year, with a strategic planning workshop held at Coober Pedy 3-5 September 2021, involving participants from across the outback; “in community” consultation in October 2021; and online discussions in March 2022; all of which progressively informed and helped build the set of recommendations put to the Minister of Local Government, by the OCA Board, on 31 May 2022.

Throughout the year, the OCA has maintained its commitment to the outback communities that the Outback Futures project is intended to be a transparent process and importantly an open conversation with those communities about what they see as a more sustainable and prosperous future. Consistent with this approach, the OCA Board has recommended that its final Report, with key findings and important principles, be shared with those communities, after due consideration of the Report by the Government.

The 2021-22 year marks the end of term of office on the OCA Board for four members, including that of the Presiding Member. My sincere thanks to all Board members for their commitment, effort and support, particularly through the challenge provided by the need to deliver the Outback Futures final recommendations. Importantly, these comments of gratitude also extend to the Office of OCA staff, led by Mark Sutton, and forming a highly effective team who put in a great effort in successfully completing such a busy year.



William (Bill) McIntosh AM

**Presiding Member (1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022)**

**Outback Communities Authority**

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## Overview: about the agency

### Our strategic focus

<p><b>Our Purpose</b></p>	<p>The Outback Communities Authority (OCA), a statutory authority, is established pursuant to the <i>Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009</i>. The OCA has responsibility for the management and ‘limited’ local governance functions for the support and delivery of municipal type services into the unincorporated areas of South Australia along with a function to articulate the views, interests and aspirations of the Outback Community.</p> <p>The purpose of the OCA is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the lives of people in the Outback</li> <li>• Ensure the voice of the Outback Community is heard where and when it counts</li> <li>• Empower the Outback Community to help themselves</li> </ul>
<p><b>Our Vision</b></p>	<p>An inspired and empowered community will ensure a more resilient Outback into the future</p>
<p><b>Our Values</b></p>	<p>Be respectful            Value relationships            Be agile            Be bold            Be relevant to the Outback Community            Base decisions on good information            Be efficient with our resources</p>
<p><b>Our functions, objectives and deliverables</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To manage the provision of public services and facilities to Outback communities; and</li> <li>• To promote improvements in the provision of public services and facilities to Outback communities; and</li> <li>• To articulate the views, interests and aspirations of Outback communities.</li> </ul>

## **Our organisational structure**

### Membership

The OCA was established on 1 July 2010 under the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009* (the Act) as a result of legislative changes passed by Parliament in late 2009.

The OCA Board consists of seven members, four are to be members of different Outback communities and at least one member must be a female and one a male. The Governor appoints the members with appointments being either for an 18 month term or a 3-year term to ensure business continuity when membership changes. Members may apply for reappointment at the conclusion of serving their term.

During 2021-22, serving OCA members and their terms were as follows:

Mr William (Bill) McIntosh, Presiding Member: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2022

Ms Jo Fort: 12 March 2015 – 30 June 2022

Mrs Frances Frahn: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2022

Mr Sam Johnson: 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2023

Mr Anthony (Tony) Vaughan: 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2023

Mr Lee Warmington: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2022

Mr Trevor Wright: 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2023

### Support Staff

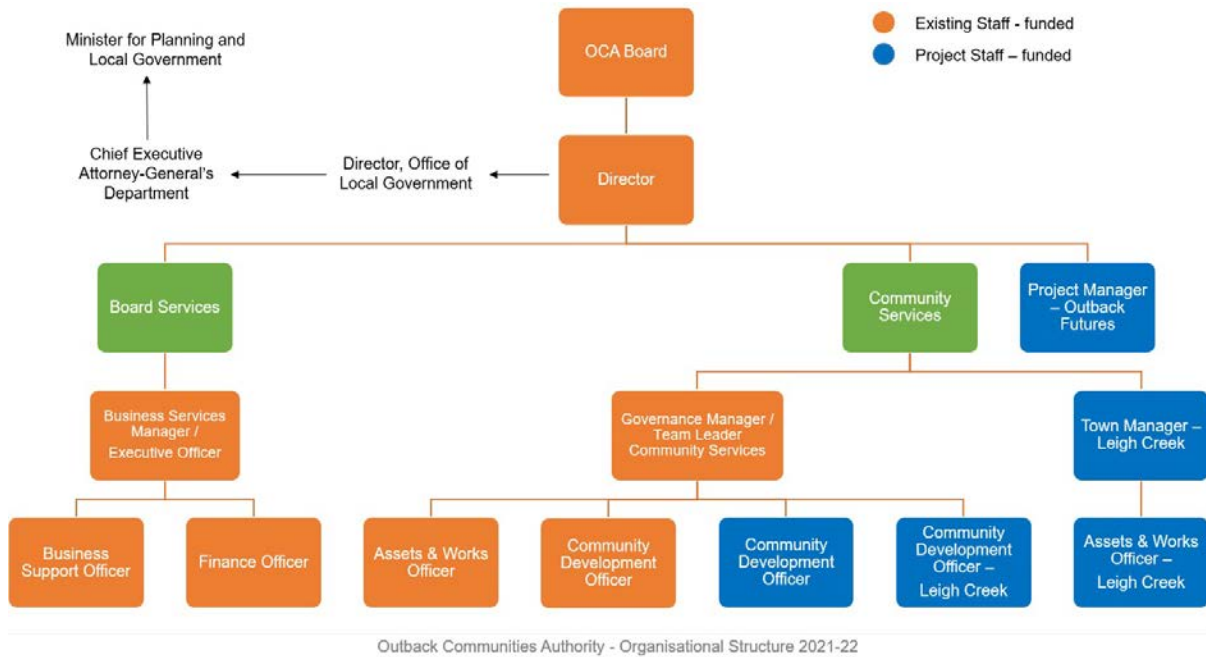
During the 2021-22 year, the Office for the OCA (OOCA) was supported by 11 full time employees; seven employees in Port Augusta, three Leigh Creek based employees and one staff member based in Adelaide.

Employees supported 23 remotely located communities through a combination of visitation and remote engagement. This support is well managed and coordinated to provide advice for the provision of community development and municipal service activities inclusive of, but not limited to, maintaining and developing new infrastructure, community development, providing assistance, seeking external grants and dog registrations. In the case of Leigh Creek, the OCA is supported to provide specific municipal and community support assistance as part of the transition of the township from a mining town to a more open Outback township.

The OOCA delivers its business through three specific yet fully integrated units. Those units together represent the broad business focus for the OOCA:

- Corporate
- Infrastructure
- Community





### Changes to the agency

During 2021-22 there were the following changes to the agency's structure and objectives as a result of internal reviews or machinery of government changes.

- Staffing changes occurred due to the recruitment of two new positions at Leigh Creek to increase support for the transformation process towards the Leigh Creek Future Town Plan and the creation of another Community Development Officer position to support the Outback Futures Project.

### Our Minister

The Outback Communities Authority is a portfolio authority accountable to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Geoff Brock MP.

### Legislation administered by the agency

*The Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009*

## The agency's performance

### Performance at a glance

#### Articulate the views, interests and aspirations of Outback communities

The OCA supports remotely located communities through annual Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) agreements. CARM agreements confirm the OCA's support for each individual Outback community providing funding to ensure the delivery of municipal type services, managing waste and the ability for communities to deliver local projects of broad benefit.

In 2021-22, CARM agreements were entered into with 23 Outback Associations representing their communities. A total of \$157,000 in funding was provided across the OCA's region. A further \$11,000 was expended to meet the cost of Outback community streetlights, \$37,000 to assist with local insurance costs and \$2,500 to support Outback events that provided social interaction opportunities.

The Outback Futures Project was launched in July 2020 and continued into 2021-22. This was an engagement process where the OCA invited the Outback Community and regional stakeholders to engage in lively and positive conversations about what is needed to make the Outback an even better place to live, work and visit into the future. A strategic planning workshop was held in Coober Pedy in September 2021 which was attended by 50 participants from across the Outback. This was followed by 'in community' meetings held in 17 Outback communities and two online meetings where outcomes from the Coober Pedy workshops were discussed. An open letter from the OCA was distributed to all consultation participants in November 2021 inviting further feedback along with a hard copy posted to all Outback land owners and residents with an Australia Post mail service. The Outback Futures Report was presented to the Minister for Local Government in December 2021 which was followed by further consultation in the form of two online meetings in March 2022. Final Outback Futures recommendations were provided to the Minister in May 2022.

#### To promote and facilitate improvements in the provision of public services and facilities to Outback communities

In 2021-22 the OCA refurbished the public conveniences at Mannahill and Yunta. Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program grant funding was also used to replace the public conveniences at Marla and Oodnadatta along with new shower facilities being installed at Pimba. Work continues in 2022-23 to replace the public conveniences in Andamooka, Iron Knob, Marree and William Creek.

#### To manage the provision of public services and facilities to Outback communities

In 2021-22 the OCA managed 21 public conveniences, 39 UHF repeater towers, 3 airstrips and 2 community waste water management systems – all of which are located in the remote unincorporated areas of South Australia.

## Agency response to COVID-19

The OCA was impacted by COVID-19 with the lack of contractor and material supplies availability and there was also some impact with COVID related restrictions.

## Agency contribution to whole of Government objectives

### Agency's contribution

- **Aboriginal Lands – Municipal Services Program SA:**  
This program uses the local workforce to deliver municipal services to the Dunjiba community at Oodnadatta including waste collection, landscaping, town maintenance, vet services and administration support.
- **Outback public conveniences:**  
The OCA ensures that public conveniences located in the remote areas of South Australia are maintained to a high standard by employing local residents or businesses to service the facilities and ensure consumables are available.
- **Outback community streetlights:**  
The OCA continues to meet the cost of streetlights in all Outback communities in the unincorporated areas of South Australia, alleviating the cost burden on local Progress Associations.
- **Community insurance:**  
IN 2021-22 the OCA continued to support Outback communities with their community insurance costs by providing a 25% subsidy on each Progress Association's annual insurance costs. The insurance portfolio includes public liability, volunteer personal accident, industrial special risks and in some cases adhoc hirers. Aviation liability is included for those communities managing their own airstrip, although no subsidy is provided for this component.
- **Outback community – public services and facilities**  
The OCA secured Commonwealth Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program, Round 8 grant funding to install animal proof fencing at the Oodnadatta aerodrome and reseal two airstrips at the Leigh Creek airport. Due to delays in contractor and materials availability, this work will continue into 2022-23.  
With funding received from the Australian Government's Drought Communities Programme Round 2 and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Phase 1 and 2, the OCA project managed upgrades at community spaces in Andamooka, Blinman, Iron Knob, Kingoonya, Marla, Marree, Oodnadatta, Penong, Pimba and Yunta. Support was also provided to the Aussie Travel Code campaign. Each project has been underpinned by local volunteer support.

**Agency specific objectives and performance**

Agency objectives	Indicators	Performance
<p>Grow Our Economy</p> <p>Facilitate new opportunities and new investment in the Outback</p>	<p>Managed and coordinated funding received from the Commonwealth Government’s Drought Communities Programme Round 2 and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, Phase 1 and 2.</p> <p>Support the development of Outback tourism strategies and opportunities that promote diversification of the economy and incorporate enhanced visitor experiences that capitalise on the natural beauty of the region.</p> <p>Manage Commonwealth grant funding through the Building Better Regions Fund, Round 5 to undertake a strategy plan to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the intermittent flooding events in Kati-Thanda Lake Eyre.</p>	<p>Commonwealth grant funding was utilised to improve community roads and infrastructure and to provide programs and events to support a more resilient and connected Outback Community.</p> <p>In partnership with the Flinders Ranges and Outback Tourism Committee, completed Stage 2 of the Aussie Travel Code Campaign project to install signs and promotional material in the Outback region promoting awareness to come prepared, stay on track, keep it clean and respect the Outback.</p> <p>Partner with Regional Development Australia Far North to develop a Kati-Thanda Lake Eyre Water Event Response Plan.</p>

<b>Agency objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Performance</b>
<p>Sustain Our Community</p> <p>Promote a shared vision for improving the 'liveability' of the Outback for those that live, work and visit</p>	<p>Finalise the Outback Futures Project addressing the long term sustainability of the Outback as its own unique and autonomous region of South Australia.</p> <p>Support the Live, Work, Play campaign enticing people to come and live, work and play in the Outback of South Australia.</p>	<p>Engaged with the Outback Community and regional stakeholders to identify what is wanted and needed for the long term sustainability of the Outback as its own unique and autonomous region of SA.</p> <p>In partnership with Regional Development Australia Far North a digital campaign was developed promoting Outback South Australia as a great place to live, work and play.</p>
<p>Grow Our Influence and Presence</p> <p>Articulate the needs of Outback people to promote the OCA's key role in decision making for the Outback</p>	<p>Undertake a broad and comprehensive engagement process with Outback people asking their views and aspirations and how to achieve a better and more resilient community into the future.</p> <p>Continue to implement a communications strategy that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotes key messages for priority issues</li> <li>• Celebrates our successes</li> <li>• Promotes the positive aspects of Outback lifestyle and the beauty of the Outback</li> <li>• Effectively engages with Outback Communities so that they remain informed</li> </ul>	<p>Through the Outback Futures Project, a comprehensive Outback Futures Report was delivered to the Minister along with final recommendations on how to achieve sustainable service provision and appropriate funding and resources that meet the Outback Community's expectations.</p> <p>Publish the OCA's newspaper 'oneOutback' in October, December, March and June during 2021-22.</p>

<b>Agency objectives</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Performance</b>
<p>Grow Our Influence and Presence</p> <p>Articulate the needs of Outback people to promote the OCA's key role in decision making for the Outback</p>	<p>Bring to Government decision making an awareness of remote and very remote community issues and promote the OCA as first point of contact for pivotal strategic decision makers on Outback matters.</p> <p>Be effective leaders in supporting Outback communities to achieve their aims.</p> <p>Continue to foster high standards of governance and accountability through Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) agreements.</p>	<p>Through strategic relationships, continued to articulate the views, interests and aspirations of the Outback Community to all levels of Government and Industry operating in the region.</p> <p>In 2021-22 the OCA continued to partner with the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing to facilitate the STARCLUB Field Officer program. Through this program the OCA provided one round of small sport grant funding, purchased sporting equipment for distribution to Outback communities and offered 13 programs encouraging active participation.</p> <p>Annual CARM agreements were entered in to with 23 Outback communities to provide a clear mechanism for OCA support and investment with clear governance expectations on each community.</p>

### Corporate performance summary

The reduction in expenditure across the Community Assistance budget during 2021-22 is attributed to the OCA receiving Commonwealth funding through the Drought Communities Programme, Round 2 and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, Phase 1 and 2. As a result, less project funding was allocated by the OCA through annual CARM agreements.

### Employment opportunity programs

Program name	Performance
Drought Communities Programme, Round 2	The Commonwealth funding, managed by the OCA, saw a much needed injection of funding (\$1m) for many communities to address the reduction of economic activity driven by extended drought conditions. Many of the projects resulted in local or regional employment on a broad range of projects including renovations and upgrades to community halls and clubs.
Aboriginal Lands – Municipal Services Program SA	<p>The OCA has successfully managed this program for approximately 13 years and it continues to deliver results for the Dunjiba community. The program creates local employment and the opportunity to learn new skills whilst delivering municipal services to the community including waste collection, landscaping and administration support. This program also includes the provision of vet services, encouraging local residents to present dogs and cats for health checks, vaccinations, microchipping and desexing with an aim to improve overall community health.</p> <p>Funding for this program was administered by the Office of Local Government on behalf of the Minister for Planning and Local Government.</p>
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program	This Commonwealth funding (\$2.44m for Phase 1 and \$1.14m for Phase 2) has also been managed by the OCA and has provided for stimulus of infrastructure construction in the Outback to help rectify the economic impacts of COVID-19. Projects resulted in local or regional employment on a number of projects including the replacement of public conveniences at Marla and Oodnadatta, new shower facilities at Pimba, community park upgrades at Kingoonya, signage promoting the Aussie Travel Code campaign, modular pump tracks for Marree, Penong, Andamooka and Leigh Creek and a picnic shelter at Aroona Dam.

### Agency performance management and development systems

<b>Performance management and development system</b>	<b>Performance</b>
Performance and Learning Agreements	<p>In 2021-22, 11 staff participated in the formal Performance and Learning Agreement process in line with the Attorney General’s Department.</p> <p>Staff also met informally with their Managers throughout the year to discuss work goals, performance measures and training and development opportunities.</p>
Induction of new staff and Board Members	Induction sessions are conducted with new staff and Board Members.

### Work health, safety and return to work programs

<b>Program name</b>	<b>Performance</b>
Remote Travel	<p>OCA staff undertake regular remote travel during the course of their role. The remote travel process in place ensures regular contact by field operatives with the office whilst on remote trips and continuous monitoring by office staff.</p> <p>‘SPOT’ GPS devices are used by OCA and are considered to be an integral part the OCA’s work, health and safety strategy. The SPOT devices are used in vehicles during regional trips and require the traveller to report on location and personal wellbeing while travelling. Satellite phones and defibrillators are also part of the equipment staff take with them when travelling.</p> <p>No vehicles accidents were reported in 2021-22.</p>
Team Meetings	OCA staff from both the Port Augusta and Leigh Creek offices meet regularly via Microsoft Teams to discuss matters relating to work health and safety, engagements currently active, project management and general staff workload updates. In 2021-22 there were 16 team meetings held, two trial emergency evacuations in the Port Augusta office and 4 trial emergency evacuations in the Leigh Creek office.
4WD and First Aid Training	Four OCA staff members successfully completed 4WD training in 2021-22, 11 staff members successfully completed first aid training and 10 staff members successfully completed Engagement Essentials training.



<b>Workplace injury claims</b>	2021-22	2020-21	% Change (+ / -)
Total new workplace injury claims	0	0	0%
Fatalities	0	0	0%
Seriously injured workers*	0	0	0%
Significant injuries (where lost time exceeds a working week, expressed as frequency rate per 1000 FTE)	0	0	0%

*\*number of claimants assessed during the reporting period as having a whole person impairment of 30% or more under the Return to Work Act 2014 (Part 2 Division 5)*

<b>Work health and safety regulations</b>	2021-22	2020-21	% Change (+ / -)
Number of notifiable incidents ( <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012, Part 3</i> )	0	0	0%
Number of provisional improvement, improvement and prohibition notices ( <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Sections 90, 191 and 195</i> )	0	0	0%

<b>Return to work costs**</b>	2021-22	2020-21	% Change (+ / -)
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	0	0	0%
Income support payments – gross (\$)	0	0	0%

*\*\*before third party recovery*

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=work+health+and+safety+return+to+work+performance&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=work+health+and+safety+return+to+work+performance&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

### **Executive employment in the agency**

<b>Executive classification</b>	<b>Number of executives</b>
SAES Level 1	1

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=executive+employment+in+sa+government&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=executive+employment+in+sa+government&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

The [Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment](#) has a [workforce information](#) page that provides further information on the breakdown of executive gender, salary and tenure by agency.

## Financial performance

### Financial performance at a glance

The following is a brief summary of the overall financial position of the agency. The information is unaudited. Full audited financial statements for 2021-2022 are attached to this report.

<b>Statement of Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>2021-22 Budget \$000s</b>	<b>2021-22 Actual \$000s</b>	<b>Variation \$000s</b>	<b>2020-21 Actual \$000s</b>
Total Income	5,312	5,609	297	7,650
Total Expenses	4,479	5,838	-1,359	6,218
<b>Net Result</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>-229</b>	<b>-1,062</b>	<b>1,432</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Result</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>-229</b>	<b>-1,062</b>	<b>1,432</b>

<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>	<b>2021-22 Budget \$000s</b>	<b>2021-22 Actual \$000s</b>	<b>Variation \$000s</b>	<b>2020-21 Actual \$000s</b>
Current assets	2,587	4,419	1,832	4,934
Non-current assets	14,932	13,930	-1,002	14,343
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>17,519</b>	<b>18,349</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>19,277</b>
Current liabilities	280	635	-355	1,215
Non-current liabilities	445	264	181	299
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>-174</b>	<b>1,514</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>16,794</b>	<b>17,450</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>17,763</b>
<b>Equity</b>	<b>16,794</b>	<b>17,450</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>17,763</b>

### Consultants disclosure

The following is a summary of external consultants that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for the work undertaken during the financial year.

#### Consultancies with a contract value below \$10,000 each

<b>Consultancies</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
Nil	Not applicable	\$0

#### Consultancies with a contract value above \$10,000 each

<b>Consultancies</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
Nil	Not applicable	\$0

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=use+of+consultants+in+SA+government&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=use+of+consultants+in+SA+government&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

See also the [Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance](#) for total value of consultancy contracts across the South Australian Public Sector.

### Contractors disclosure

The following is a summary of external contractors that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken, and the actual payments made for work undertaken during the financial year.

#### Contractors with a contract value below \$10,000

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
All contractors below \$10,000 each - combined	Various	\$113,532

#### Contractors with a contract value above \$10,000 each

Contractors	Purpose	\$ Actual payment
Aerodrome Design Services	Aerodrome maintenance and preparation of Leigh Creek Aerodrome manual and Method of Working Plan	\$ 20,000
Airside Technical Services	Aerodrome maintenance and an inspection at the Leigh Creek Aerodrome	\$ 11,420
A Khan	Cleaning of the Copley and Leigh Creek public conveniences	\$17,248
Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Pty Ltd	Community asset management, services quarterly agreement and reimbursement for Youth Officer, insurance with Local Government Risk Services and Andamooka CARM funding	\$172,319

<b>Contractors</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
Angorichina Tourist Village	Cleaning of the Angorichina and Parachilna public conveniences	\$ 14,546
J Austin	Cleaning of the Pimba public conveniences	\$12,672
Buxcat Pty Ltd	Maintenance of the Leigh Creek Aerodrome	\$46,405
Coopers Yunta Hotel	Cleaning of the Yunta, Mannahill and Olary public conveniences	\$35,856
Dunjiba Community Council	Dunjiba municipal services	\$60,357
W Ferguson	Town maintenance, Leigh Creek	\$80,590
Flinders Ranges Council	Quarterly administrative fees for management of Andamooka and Iron Knob Community Contribution Scheme	\$50,829
Gambier Electronics Pty Ltd	Maintenance of UHF repeater towers	\$48,926
Innamincka Hotel	Cleaning of the Innamincka public conveniences & facilities	\$16,116
Innovative Influences	Leigh Creek community engagement services	\$32,447
Magiq Pty Ltd	Software utilised by the Flinders Ranges Council for management of the Andamooka and Iron Knob Community Contribution Scheme	\$21,251
Michele Bennetts Consulting	Outback Futures Project costing model and rating strategy	\$20,220

<b>Contractors</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>\$ Actual payment</b>
Northern Earthmoving and Engineering Pty Ltd	Road, waste area and pipeline maintenance, Andamooka	\$92,797
Port Pirie Veterinary Clinic	Oodnadatta vet services	\$19,298
South Australian Road Services	Drought Communities Programme, Round 2 – landscaping of water station sites	\$44,000
Splint's Garden Maintenance	Grounds maintenance, Leigh Creek	\$26,858
William Creek Hotel	Cleaning of the William Creek public conveniences	\$11,775
Windy Creek Pastoral	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, walking trail between Copley and Leigh Creek	\$101,510
	Total	\$ 958,847

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=contractors+engaged+in+SA+government&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=contractors+engaged+in+SA+government&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

The details of South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website. [View the agency list of contracts.](#)

The website also provides details of [across government contracts.](#)

## Risk management

### Risk and audit at a glance

To achieve policy outcomes the Office for the OCA continually reviews its Risk Register that was developed in association with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport. This risk register applies to all of the OCA's business activities and is approved by the OCA annually. The Risk Management Framework has been compiled in accordance with and based on AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018 – Risk Management – Guidelines.

### Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
Not applicable.	0

NB: Fraud reported includes actual and reasonably suspected incidents of fraud.

### Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

The OCA's financial activities are supported by its Financial Management Compliance Program (FMCP) for identification and treatment of non-compliance with key financial management and compliance objectives. The FMCP also provides the opportunity to assess whether any serious or systematic financial management issues exist that require intervention and/or additional educational activities.

The OCA's FMCP is reviewed throughout the year and a full assessment is undertaken annually. No major findings were identified that would result in a significant impact to the OCA's financial operations.

After assessment by the OOCA, the FMCP and any accompanying reports are provided to the OCA at a formal meeting for endorsement.

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=Fraud+detected+in+agencies&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=Fraud+detected+in+agencies&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

### Public interest disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018*:

0

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=whistleblowers+disclosure&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=whistleblowers+disclosure&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

Note: Disclosure of public interest information was previously reported under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* and repealed by the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2018* on 1/7/2019.

## Reporting required under any other act or regulation

Act or Regulation	Requirement
<p><b><i>Dog and Cat Management Act 1995</i></b></p>	<p>In Part 1, Section 4 of the <i>Dog and Cat Management Act 1995</i>, the OCA is described as a council and where the Act refers to a council's area of responsibility, the OCA is acknowledged. The OCA reports to the Dog and Cat Management Board at the end of each financial year, pursuant to the requirements of the <i>Dog and Cat Management Act 1995</i>. Online reporting through the Dogs and Cats Online platform summarises statistics relevant to the financial year and includes the number of dog registrations and expiations that have occurred in the unincorporated areas of South Australia. Although the Office for the OCA encourages dog owners to access the Dogs and Cats Online platform, it continues to support Outback agencies that provide the opportunity for owners to register their dogs at a local level.</p>



## Public complaints

### Number of public complaints reported

<b>Complaint categories</b>	<b>Sub-categories</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>Number of Complaints 2021-22</b>
Professional behaviour	Staff attitude	Failure to demonstrate values such as empathy, respect, fairness, courtesy, extra mile; cultural competency	0
Professional behaviour	Staff competency	Failure to action service request; poorly informed decisions; incorrect or incomplete service provided	1
Professional behaviour	Staff knowledge	Lack of service specific knowledge; incomplete or out-of-date knowledge	0
Communication	Communication quality	Inadequate, delayed or absent communication with customer	1
Communication	Confidentiality	Customer's confidentiality or privacy not respected; information shared incorrectly	0
Service delivery	Systems/technology	System offline; inaccessible to customer; incorrect result/information provided; poor system design	0
Service delivery	Access to services	Service difficult to find; location poor; facilities/ environment poor standard; not accessible to customers with disabilities	0
Service delivery	Process	Processing error; incorrect process used; delay in processing application; process not customer responsive	0
Policy	Policy application	Incorrect policy interpretation; incorrect policy applied; conflicting policy advice given	0
Policy	Policy content	Policy content difficult to understand; policy unreasonable or disadvantages customer	0

<b>Complaint categories</b>	<b>Sub-categories</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>Number of Complaints 2021-22</b>
Service quality	Information	Incorrect, incomplete, out dated or inadequate information; not fit for purpose	0
Service quality	Access to information	Information difficult to understand, hard to find or difficult to use; not plain English	0
Service quality	Timeliness	Lack of staff punctuality; excessive waiting times (outside of service standard); timelines not met	1
Service quality	Safety	Maintenance; personal or family safety; duty of care not shown; poor security service/ premises; poor cleanliness	0
Service quality	Service responsiveness	Service design doesn't meet customer needs; poor service fit with customer expectations	2
No case to answer	No case to answer	Third party; customer misunderstanding; redirected to another agency; insufficient information to investigate	8
		<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

<b>Additional Metrics</b>	<b>Total</b>
Number of positive feedback comments	5
Number of negative feedback comments	1
Total number of feedback comments	6
% complaints resolved within policy timeframes	100

Data for previous years is available at:

[https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=public+complaints+received+SA+government&sort=extras\\_harvest\\_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata\\_modified+desc](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset?q=public+complaints+received+SA+government&sort=extras_harvest_portal+asc%2C+score+desc%2C+metadata_modified+desc)

**Service Improvements**

Nil

**Compliance Statement**

The Outback Communities Authority is compliant with Premier and Cabinet Circular 039 – complaint management in the South Australian public sector	Y
The Outback Communities Authority has communicated the content of PC 039 and the agency’s related complaints policies and procedures to employees.	Y

## **Appendix: Audited financial statements 2021-22**

### **Outback Communities Authority Certification of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022**

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We certify that the:

- financial statements of the Outback Communities Authority:
  - are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Outback Communities Authority;
  - comply with relevant Treasurer's Instructions;
  - comply with relevant accounting standards; and
  - present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Outback Communities Authority at the end of financial year and the results of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls employed by the Outback Communities Authority for the financial year over its financial reporting and its preparation of financial statements have been effective.



Jan Ferguson OAM  
Presiding Member  
Outback Communities Authority  
13 October 2022



Mark Sutton  
Director  
Outback Communities Authority  
13 October 2022

# **Outback Communities Authority**

## **Financial Statements**

For the year ended 30 June 2022

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Statement of Comprehensive Income**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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	Note	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
<b>Income</b>			
Commonwealth sourced funding	2.1	3 164	3 945
Revenue from SA Government		1 613	2 402
SA Government grants subsidies and transfers	2.2	231	797
Other income	2.3	601	506
<b>Total income</b>		<b>5 609</b>	<b>7 650</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Supplies and services	4.1	2 415	2 634
Employee benefits expenses	3.3	1 328	1 098
Grants and subsidies	4.2	1 290	1 679
Depreciation and amortisation	5.1	694	764
Net loss on disposal of non-current assets		60	-
Other expenses	4.3	51	43
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>5 838</b>	<b>6 218</b>
<b>Net result</b>		<b>(229)</b>	<b>1 432</b>
<b>Total comprehensive result</b>		<b>(229)</b>	<b>1 432</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The net result and total comprehensive result are attributable to the SA Government as owner.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

	Note	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	6.1	3 581	2 823
Receivables	6.2	838	891
Contract assets	6.3	-	1 220
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>4 419</b>	<b>4 934</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property plant and equipment	5.1	13 930	14 343
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>13 930</b>	<b>14 343</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>18 349</b>	<b>19 277</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Payables	7.1	469	882
Employee benefits	3.4	156	310
Lease liabilities	7.2	10	23
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>635</b>	<b>1 215</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Employee benefits	3.4	238	262
Payables	7.1	24	25
Lease liabilities	7.2	2	12
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>264</b>	<b>299</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>899</b>	<b>1 514</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>17 450</b>	<b>17 763</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained earnings		15 036	15 349
Asset revaluation surplus		2 414	2 414
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>17 450</b>	<b>17 763</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. The total equity is attributable to the SA Government as owner.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Statement of Changes of Equity**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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	<b>Asset revaluation surplus \$'000</b>	<b>Retained earnings \$'000</b>	<b>Total equity \$'000</b>
<b>Balance at 1 July 2020</b>	<b>2 414</b>	<b>13 917</b>	<b>16 331</b>
Net result for 2020-21	-	1 432	1 432
<b>Total comprehensive result for 2020-21</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 432</b>	<b>1 432</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2021</b>	<b>2 414</b>	<b>15 349</b>	<b>17 763</b>
Error correction	-	(84)	(84)
<b>restated balance as at 1 July 2021</b>	<b>2 414</b>	<b>15 265</b>	<b>17 679</b>
Net result for 2021-22	-	(229)	(229)
<b>Total comprehensive result for 2021-22</b>	<b>2 414</b>	<b>15 036</b>	<b>17 450</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2022</b>	<b>2 414</b>	<b>15 036</b>	<b>17 450</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. All changes in equity are attributable to the SA Government as owner.



**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

	Note	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
<b>Cash inflows</b>			
Commonwealth sourced funding		4 384	2 725
Revenue from SA Government		989	3 024
Other receipts		669	305
SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers		231	797
<b>Cash generated from operating activities</b>		<b>6 273</b>	<b>6 851</b>
<b>Cash outflows</b>			
Payments for supplies and services		(2 392)	(2 491)
Employee benefit payments		(1 526)	(1 126)
Payments for grants and subsidies		(1 290)	(1 679)
Other payments		(43)	(43)
<b>Cash used in operating activities</b>		<b>(5 251)</b>	<b>(5 339)</b>
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>		<b>1 022</b>	<b>1 512</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
<b>Cash inflows</b>			
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		5	-
<b>Cash generated from investing activities</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash outflows</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(246)	(1 638)
<b>Cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(246)</b>	<b>(1 638)</b>
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>		<b>(241)</b>	<b>(1 638)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
<b>Cash outflows</b>			
Repayment of leases		(23)	(16)
<b>Cash used by financing activities</b>		<b>(23)</b>	<b>(16)</b>
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities</b>		<b>(23)</b>	<b>(16)</b>
<b>Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>758</b>	<b>(142)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		2 823	2 965
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	6.1	<b>3 581</b>	<b>2 823</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# **Outback Communities Authority**

## **Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**

*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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### **1. About the Outback Communities Authority**

The Outback Communities Authority (the Authority) is a not-for-profit entity established and empowered by the *Outback Communities (Administration and Management) Act 2009* (the Act), which is within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Local Government (Minister for Planning and Local Government until 24 March 2022). The Act also defines the areas of the State to which its provisions apply, sets out the Authority's powers and functions and makes provision for the support staff. It also enables specific provisions of the *Local Government Act 1999* to be applied by regulation to part, or all, of the Authority's area.

The Act further requires the yearly statement of accounts of the Authority to be audited by the Auditor-General and that the Authority provides an annual report to the State Parliament.

The Authority does not control any other entity and has no interests in unconsolidated structured entities. The Authority has not entered into any contractual arrangements which involve the sharing of control or significant influence over another entity.

#### **1.1. Basis of Preparation**

The Authority has prepared these general purpose financial statements in compliance with:

- section 23 of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*;
- Treasurer's Instructions and Accounting Policy Statements issued by the Treasurer under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*; and
- relevant Australian Accounting Standards applying simplified disclosures.

These are the first financial statements prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures. In the prior year, the financial statements were prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements. There has been no impact on the recognition and measurement of amounts recognised in the statements of financial position, profit and loss and other comprehensive income and cash flows of the Authority as a result of the change in the basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared based on a 12 month reporting period and presented in Australian currency. All amounts in the financial statements and accompanying notes have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars \$'000. The historical cost convention is used unless another measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the notes associated with the item measured.

Assets and liabilities that are to be sold, consumed or realised as part of the normal operating cycle have been classified as current assets or current liabilities. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

Significant accounting policies are set out throughout the notes.

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST) except:

- when the GST incurred on a purchase of goods or services is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item applicable.
- receivables and payables which are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of the GST receivable/payable to the ATO is not recognised as a receivable/payable in the Statement of Financial Position as the Authority is a member of an approved GST group of which the Attorney-General's Department is responsible for the remittance and collection of GST.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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**1.2. Objectives and programs**

The functions of the Outback Communities Authority (the Authority) are:

- to manage the provision of public services and facilities to outback communities;
- to promote improvements in the provision of public services and facilities to outback communities; and
- to articulate the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities.

In performing its functions the Authority is to:

- foster and support the provision of public services and facilities to outback communities by community organisations, including by making grants and loans to such organisations;
- consider long-term requirements for maintenance, replacement and development of infrastructure for public services and facilities for outback communities;
- consider State and national objectives and strategies that are relevant to outback communities;
- seek ongoing collaboration with local, State and national governments in the planning and delivery of public services and facilities to outback communities;
- ensure that there are systems in place to further its understanding of the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities;
- facilitate decision making by others on a basis that is well informed in relation to the views, interests and aspirations of outback communities, including by participating in appropriate local, State and national forums; and
- provide services with a high level of efficiency and effectiveness, manage resources effectively, prudently and in a fully accountable manner, and maintain and enhance the value of public assets.

**1.3. Impact of COVID-19 pandemic**

The COVID-19 pandemic has had no material impact on the operations of the Authority in 2021-22. At this stage, there is insufficient information to determine whether the COVID-19 pandemic will have a material impact on the operations of the Authority in 2022-23. The Authority will continue to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their operations in 2022-23.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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**2. Income**

**2.1. Commonwealth sourced funding**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Commonwealth-sourced Grant Funding	2 121	1 564
Commonwealth grant funding with sufficient performance obligations	1 043	2 381
<b>Total Commonwealth sourced funding</b>	<b>3 164</b>	<b>3 945</b>

The above commonwealth sourced funding were allocated to the following programs / projects:

Financial Assistance Grants	2 121	1 564
Local Roads & Community Infrastructure	571	1 220
Drought Communities Programme Extension	175	913
Leigh Creek Aerodrome Runway Resealing	150	-
Oodnadatta Aerodrome Fencing	47	-
Outback Water Stations	-	148
Northern Flinders Ranges Pastoral Business Review	100	100
<b>Total Commonwealth sourced funding</b>	<b>3 164</b>	<b>3 945</b>

Financial Assistance Grants are recognised as income on receipt. Obligations under Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding are required to be met by the State of South Australia.

All revenue from Commonwealth Grant Funding with sufficient performance obligations is revenue recognised from contracts with customers.

The Authority recognises revenue (contracts with customers) from the following major sources:

*Local Roads and Communities Programme Extension*

Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Programme supports local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects across Australia. In the Outback areas within South Australia funding has been received to complete projects enhancing local community facilities. Revenue is recognised when specific milestones in the agreement are reached.

*Drought Communities Programme Extension*

Funding received from the Commonwealth's Drought Communities Programme Extension is for drought relief projects in areas impacted by drought. The agreement states that an initial payment is received in advance and then the remaining funding is received based on agreed outcomes. Revenue is recognised when specific milestones in the agreement are reached.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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**2.2. SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
SA Government Funding with sufficient performance obligations	196	675
SA Government Grants	35	122
<b>Total SA Government grants subsidies and transfers</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>797</b>

The above SA Government grants, subsidies and transfers were allocated to the following programs / projects:

Dunjiba Municipal Services	122	115
Andamooka Town Services	74	60
General Purpose SA Government Grants	35	122
Municipal Services Infrastructure Program	-	500
<b>Total SA Government grants subsidies and transfers</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>797</b>

SA Government Grants are recognised as income on receipt.

All revenue from SA Government Grant Funding with sufficient performance obligations is revenue recognised from contracts with customers.

The Authority recognises revenue (contracts with customers) from the following major source:

*Municipal Services Infrastructure Program*

The Municipal Services Infrastructure Program is administered by the Office of Local Government and incorporates an initiative to upgrade the Oodnadatta Community Wastewater Management System. Revenue is recognised when specific milestones in the agreement are reached.

**2.3. Other Income**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Community Contribution Scheme	317	294
Recoveries/reimbursements	213	172
Airstrip landing fees	41	31
Other grants	27	-
Other	3	9
<b>Total other income</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>506</b>

Other income consists of recoveries, reimbursements and community contributions which is derived in accordance with section 21 of the Act.

Other income is recognised as an asset and income when the Authority obtains control of the income or obtains the right to receive the income and the income recognition criteria are met (that is, the amount can be reliably measured and the flow of resources is probable).

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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**3. Board, committees and employees**

**3.1. Key Management Personnel**

Key management personnel of the Authority include the Minister for Local Government (Minister for Planning and Local Government until 24 March 2022), the seven board members and the Director who have responsibility for the strategic direction and management of the Authority.

The total compensation for the Authority's key management personnel was \$283 896 (\$248 800). This compensation excludes salaries and other benefits the Minister receives. The Minister's remuneration and allowances are set by the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990* and the Remuneration Tribunal of SA respectively and are payable from the Consolidated Account under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990*.

**Transactions with key management personnel and other related parties**

A board member is an owner of Wrightsair, a transport company. During the year, the Authority engaged Wrightsair for services in relation to the Outback Futures Project on normal commercial terms and conditions totalling \$25,000. As at year end, there are no amounts outstanding. The board member did not take part in any decisions relating to the engagement of Wrightsair.

**3.2. Board and Committee Members**

Members of the Outback Communities Authority during the financial year 2022 were:

Frahn F L W (expired 30/06/2022)  
Fort J (expired 30/06/2022)  
Johnson S C  
McIntosh W R (Presiding member) (expired 30/06/2022)  
Vaughan A R  
Warmington L (expired 30/06/2022)  
Wright T W

**Board and committee remuneration**

The number of members whose remuneration received or receivable falls within the following bands:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
\$0 - \$19 999	7	10
<b>Total number of members</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>

The total remuneration received or receivable by members was \$70 600 (\$63 400). Mileage allowance paid to board members has not been included in the remuneration. Remuneration of members reflects all costs of performing board/committee member duties including sitting fees, superannuation contributions, salary sacrifice benefits, fringe benefits and any related fringe benefits tax.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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**3.3. Employee benefits expenses**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Salaries and wages	978	775
Employment on-costs	189	157
Long service leave	(11)	24
Annual leave	99	71
Board fees	63	61
Skills and experience retention leave	10	10
<b>Total employee benefits expenses</b>	<b>1 328</b>	<b>1 098</b>

***Employment on-costs – superannuation***

The superannuation employment on-cost charge represents Outback Communities Authority's contributions to superannuation plans in respect of current services of current employees. There is no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes.

**Employee remuneration**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>
The number of employees whose remuneration received or receivable falls within the following bands:		
\$157 001 – \$177 000	-	1
\$177 001 – \$197 000	1	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

The total remuneration received by these employees for the year was \$0.183 million (2021: \$0.168 million).

The table includes all employees who received remuneration equal to or greater than the base executive remuneration level during the year. Remuneration of employees reflects all costs of employment including salaries and wages, payments in lieu of leave, superannuation contributions, termination payments, salary sacrifice benefits, fringe benefits and any related fringe benefits tax.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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**3.4. Employee benefits liability**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>		
Annual leave	128	118
Long service leave	16	161
Skills and experience retention leave	8	9
Accrued salaries and wages	4	22
<b>Total current employee benefits</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>310</b>
<b>Non-current</b>		
Long service leave	238	262
<b>Total non-current employee benefits</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>262</b>
<b>Total employee benefits</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>572</b>

Long term employee benefits are measured at present value and short-term employee benefits are measured at nominal amounts.

**Long service leave**

The liability for long service leave is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of reporting period using the projected unit credit method. The expected timing and amount of long service leave payments is determined through whole-of-government actuarial calculations, which is then applied to the authority's employee details. Key assumptions include whether the characteristics of employee remuneration, terms of service with the public sector, and expectations as to when employees take long service leave, as established by the actuary, are applicable to employees of the authority. These assumptions affect both the expected amount to be paid that has been factored into the calculation of the liability. The discount rate used in measuring the liability is another key assumption. The discount rate is reflective of long-term Commonwealth Government bonds. The yield on long term Commonwealth Government bonds has increased from 1.25% (2021) to 3.5% (2022).

This increase in the bond yield results in a decrease in the reported long service leave liability.

The unconditional portion of the long service leave provision is classified as current as the authority does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after reporting date. The unconditional portion of long service leave relates to an unconditional legal entitlement to payment after 10 years of service.

Current long service leave reflects the portion of leave based on Attorney Generals rate which reflects the portion of leave expected to be settled within the next 12 months, base on the previous year's leave taken.



**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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**4. Expenses**

**4.1. Supplies and services**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Service contracts	1 172	1 446
Property expenses	421	493
Insurance	219	193
Administrative costs	205	210
Utilities	103	103
Plant, equipment and vehicle expenses	91	64
Accommodation expenses*	52	44
Auditor's remuneration**	36	35
Materials and other purchases	8	1
Legal services	2	18
Other	106	27
<b>Total supplies and services</b>	<b>2 415</b>	<b>2 634</b>

\*The Authority's accommodation is provided by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) under Memoranda of Administrative Arrangement (MoAA) issued in accordance with Government-wide accommodation policies. MoAA do not meet the definition of a lease set out in AASB 16.

\*\* Audit fees paid / payable to the Auditor-General's Department relate to work performed under the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*. No other services were provided by the Auditor-General's Department.

**4.2. Grant and subsidies**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure	950	529
Community Affairs Resourcing Management Grants	158	144
Drought Communities Programme Extension	86	763
Regional Development Initiatives	76	212
Sports and Youth Grants	5	7
Other	15	24
<b>Total grants and subsidies</b>	<b>1 290</b>	<b>1 679</b>

**4.3. Other expenses**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Community Levy	43	43
Bad and doubtful debts expense	3	-
Other	5	-
<b>Total other expenses</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>43</b>

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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**5. Non-financial assets**

**5.1. Property, plant and equipment**

Property, plant and equipment comprise tangible assets owned and right-of-use (leased) assets.

All non-current assets with a value of \$10 000 or greater are capitalised, otherwise it is expensed.

Property, plant and equipment is recorded at fair value. Detail about the Authority's approach to fair value is set out in note 9.1

**Depreciation and Amortisation**

All non-current assets not held for sale with a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their service potential.

**Useful Life**

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis. Property, plant and equipment assets depreciation are calculated over the estimated useful life as follows:

<b>Class of asset</b>	<b>Useful life (years)</b>
Buildings and infrastructure	4 - 100
Water, sewerage and drainage	25 - 87
Plant and equipment	2 - 48
Right-of-use vehicles	1 – 2

**Review of accounting estimates**

Assets' residual values, useful lives and amortisation methods are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, on an annual basis. Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for prospectively by changing the time period or method, as appropriate.

**Impairment**

There were no indications of impairment of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure assets at 30 June 2022.

Revaluation of property, plant and equipment is undertaken on a regular cycle. If at any time management considers that the carrying amount of an asset materially differs from its fair value, then the asset will be revalued regardless of when the last valuation took place.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

**5.1. Property, plant and equipment (continued)**

The following table shows the movement of property, plant and equipment during 2021-22:

<b>2022</b>	<b>Land</b>	<b>Buildings and Infrastructure</b>	<b>Water, sewerage and drainage</b>	<b>Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>Work in Progress</b>	<b>ROU Vehicles</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Carrying amount at beginning of the period</b>	72	10 519	2 202	575	941	34	14 343
Acquisitions	-	-	-	-	446	-	446
Disposals	-	-	-	(65)	-	-	(65)
Transfer to/(from) works in progress	-	117	18	-	(135)	-	-
Other movements	-	-	-	-	(84)	(16)	(100)
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>10 636</b>	<b>2 220</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>1 168</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14 624</b>
<b>Gains/(losses) for the period recognised in net result:</b>							
Depreciation and amortisation	-	(567)	(88)	(33)	-	(6)	(694)
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(567)</b>	<b>(88)</b>	<b>(33)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>(694)</b>
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the period</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>10 069</b>	<b>2 132</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>1 168</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13 930</b>
<b>Gross carrying amount</b>							
Gross carrying amount	72	26 861	3 637	1 385	1 168	33	33 156
Accumulated depreciation	-	(16 792)	(1 505)	(908)	-	(21)	(19 226)
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the period</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>10 069</b>	<b>2 132</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>1 168</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13 930</b>

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
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**5.2. Property, plant and equipment leased by the Authority**

Right-of-use assets leased by the Authority as lessee are measured at cost and there are no indications of impairment.

Short-term leases of 12 months or less and low value leases where the underlying asset value is less than \$15,000 are not recognised as right-of-use assets.

The Authority has a limited number of leases:

- 2 motor vehicle leases with the South Australian Government Financing Authority (SAFA). Motor vehicle leases are non-cancellable, with rental payments monthly in arrears. Motor vehicle lease terms can range from 3 years (60,000km) up to 5 years (100,000km). No variable lease payments are provided for in the lease agreements and no options exist to renew the leases at the end of their term.

The measurement of and the maturity analysis associated with lease liabilities are disclosed in note 7.2. Depreciation expenses related to the leases is disclosed in note 5.1. Cash outflows related to leases are disclosed in note 7.2.

**6. Financial assets**

**6.1. Cash**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Deposits with the Department of Treasury and Finance	3 581	2 823
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>3 581</b>	<b>2 823</b>

Cash is measured at nominal amounts.

**6.2. Receivables**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>		
Accrued revenues	638	577
Prepayments	104	89
Receivables	103	229
Less impairment loss on receivables	(7)	(4)
<b>Total current receivables</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>891</b>

Receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other government agencies and to the public. Receivables are normally settled within 30 days after the issue of an invoice, or the goods/services have been provided under a contractual arrangement. Receivables, prepayments and accrued revenues are non-interest bearing. Receivables are held with the objective of collecting contractual cash flows and they are measured at amortised cost.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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**6.2. Receivables (continued)**

**Allowance for impairment loss on receivables**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<i>Carrying amount at the beginning of the period</i>	4	4
Increase/(decrease) in allowance recognised in profit or loss	3	-
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the period</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>

**6.3. Contract assets**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>		
Contract assets - current	-	1 220
<b>Total current contract assets</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 220</b>

Contract assets relate to the Authority's rights to consideration for work completed but not yet billed at the reporting date on the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program. Amounts are billed in accordance with agreed upon contractual terms (i.e. periodic intervals). Contract assets are transferred to receivables when the rights become unconditional. Based on assessment of historical invoice billing and collection data, the Authority did not recognise a loss allowance for contract assets in accordance with AASB 9.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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**7. Liabilities**

**7.1. Payables**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Current</b>		
Accrued expenses	245	219
Creditors	200	624
Employment on-costs	24	39
<b>Total current payables</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>882</b>
<b>Non-current</b>		
Employment on-costs	24	25
<b>Total non-current payables</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Total payables</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>907</b>

Accruals are raised for all amounts owing but unpaid and are normally settled within 30 days from the date the invoice is first received. All payables are non-interest bearing. The carrying amount of payables represents fair value due to their short term nature.

**Employment on-costs**

Employment on-costs include payroll tax and superannuation contributions and are settled when the respective employee benefits that they relate to are discharged. The Authority makes contributions to several State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. There is no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only payable outstanding at reporting date relates to any contributions due but not yet paid.

The Authority makes contributions to several State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. There is no liability for payments for beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only liability outstanding at reporting date relates to contributions due but not yet paid to the superannuation scheme managers.

As a result of an actuarial assessment performed by DTF, the portion of long service leave taken as leave has remained the same at 42%, and the average factor for the calculation of employer superannuation contribution on-costs has increased to 10.6% (10.1%). These rates are used in the employment on-cost calculation. The net financial effect of the changes in the current financial year is a decrease in the employment on-cost and employee benefits expense. This decrease was immaterial and the estimated impact on 2022 is not expected to be material.

**7.2. Lease liabilities**

A maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on undiscounted gross cash flows is reported in the table below:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Lease liabilities</b>		
within 1 year	10	23
1 to 3 years	2	12
<b>Total lease liabilities</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>35</b>

Lease liabilities have been measured via discounting lease payments using either the interest rate implicit in the lease (where it is readily determined) or Treasury's incremental borrowing rate. There were no defaults or breaches on any of the above liabilities throughout the year. The borrowing costs associated with these lease liabilities was nil (2021: nil).

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
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Total cash outflows for lease for \$23 000 (2021: \$16 000). All material cash outflows are reflected in the lease liabilities disclosed above.

## 8. Outlook

### 8.1. Unrecognised contractual commitments

Commitments include capital and outsourcing arrangements arising from contractual or statutory sources and are disclosed at their nominal value (net of GST).

#### Capital commitments

Capital expenditure contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities in the financial report, are payable as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Within one year	15	-
<b>Total capital Commitments</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-</b>

#### Expenditure commitments

Commitments for the payment of maintenance and other service contracts at the reporting date but not recognised as payables in the financial statements are payable as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Within one year	583	500
Later than one year but not longer than five years	202	237
Later than five years	199	256
<b>Total expenditure commitments</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>993</b>

Expenditure commitments relate to commitments arising from other service contracts, accommodation and grant funding

### 8.2. Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

The Authority is not aware of any contingent assets or liabilities as at 30 June 2022.

### 8.3. Events after balance date

The Authority will transfer from Attorney-Generals Department to the Department of Infrastructure and Transport effective 1 July 2022.

**Outback Communities Authority**  
**Notes to and forming part of the financial statements**  
*for the year ended 30 June 2022*

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## **9. Measurement and Risk**

### **9.1. Fair value**

AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants, in the principal or most advantageous market, at the measurement date.

#### **Initial recognition**

Non-current tangible assets are initially recorded at cost or at the value of any liabilities assumed, plus any incidental cost involved with the acquisition. Where assets are acquired at no value, or minimal value, they are recorded at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position. However, if the assets are acquired at no or nominal value as part of a restructure of administrative arrangements then the assets are recognised at book value i.e. the amount recorded by the transferor public authority immediately prior to the restructure.

#### **Revaluation**

Property, plant and equipment, other than right of use asset is subsequently measured at fair value after allowing for accumulated depreciation.

An independent valuation of assets including land, buildings and infrastructure and water and sewerage assets were valued by the Valuer-General as at 1 July 2017. Land is valued using market approach, and buildings and facilities is valued using replacement cost approach due to not being an active market. The valuation was based on a combination of internal records, specialised knowledge and acquisition/transfer costs. No asset classes were revalued in 2021-22.

Non-current tangible assets are valued at fair value and revaluation of non-current assets or a group of assets is only performed when the fair value at the time of acquisition is greater than \$1.5 million and estimated useful life is greater than three years.

Every six years, the Authority revalues its land, buildings and infrastructure and water and sewerage assets. If at any time management considers that the carrying amount of an asset materially differs from its fair value, then the asset will be revalued regardless of when the last valuation took place. Non-current tangible assets that are acquired between revaluations are held at cost until the next valuation, where they are revalued to fair value.

Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amounts of the assets and the net amounts are restated to the revalued amounts of the asset.

### **9.2. Financial instruments**

#### ***Financial risk management***

Risk management is managed by the Authority's corporate services section and Authority risk management policies are in accordance with the *SA Government Risk Management Guide* and the principles established in the *Australian Standard Risk Management Principles and Guidelines*.

The Authority's exposure to financial risk (liquidity, credit and market) is low due to the nature of the financial instruments held.

#### ***Liquidity risk***

The Authority is funded mainly from a Federal Government Financial Assistance Grant and Revenues from SA Government. The Authority works with DTF to determine the cash flows associated with its Ministerial approved program of work and to ensure funding is provided through SA Government budgetary processes to meet the expected cash flows.

There have been no changes in risk exposure since the last reporting period.

All financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost and are current for 2022.





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## To the Presiding Member Outback Communities Authority

### Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Outback Communities Authority for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Outback Communities Authority as at 30 June 2022, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Reporting Requirements.

The financial report comprises:

- a Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2022
- a Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2022
- a Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2022
- a Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2022
- notes, comprising material accounting policies and other explanatory information
- a Certificate from the Presiding Member and the Director.

### Basis for opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report' section of my report. I am independent of Outback Communities Authority. The *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* establishes the independence of the Auditor-General. In conducting the audit, the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* have been met.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

## **Responsibilities of the Director and Members of the Outback Communities Authority for the financial report**

The Director is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with relevant Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Reporting Requirements and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Director is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

The members of the Authority are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

## **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report**

As required by section 31(1)(b) of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, I have audited the financial report of Outback Communities Authority for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

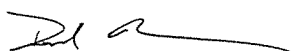
As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Outback Communities Authority's internal control

- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Director
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

My report refers only to the financial report described above and does not provide assurance over the integrity of electronic publication by the entity on any website nor does it provide an opinion on other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the report.

I communicate with the Director and Presiding Member about, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during the audit.



Daniel O'Donohue  
**Assistant Auditor-General (Financial Audit)**

20 October 2022